

THE GREASBROUGH
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.



Annual Report

FOR THE YEAR 1906,

BY

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(M.R.C.S., England, &c.),


Medical Officer of Health.



Rotherham :

CHAS. M. RATCLIFFE, PRINTER, CHURCH STREET.

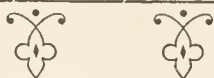
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To the Chairman and Members of the Greasbrough
Urban District Council.



GENTLEMEN,

I have once again to report to you on the general health of your district for the past year.

Taken on the whole, I trust the Report will be satisfactory to you, for, as on the one hand you may be congratulated on a fairly high Birth Rate, an exceptionally low Death Rate, a diminished Infantile Mortality, an absence of any Deaths from Infectious Disease, a much lessened general Death Rate, and lastly, a more general appreciation of the benefits of your Isolation Hospital; yet on the other hand, you have had a most severe Epidemic of Measles which lasted quite two months, and was of exceptional severity and virulence.

Later on I shall refer to all these individually—

Epidemic Disease. There have been a less number of notifications during the past year—

14	cases of	Scarlet Fever
5	„	Typhoid Fever
1	case of	Diphtheria
1	„	Erysipelas

Nine cases were removed to the Wath Hospital, five of Scarlet Fever, and four of Typhoid Fever. I regret to say there were two deaths, one from each disease, but as the patients died in another Urban District, they do not figure in my Report.

Scarlet Fever. Fourteen cases were notified to me as occurring in thirteen different houses ; in nine of these removal to Hospital was objected to, or was unnecessary. Instructions were given and disinfectants supplied. The houses are all fumigated with Formalin.

Typhoid Fever. Five cases in four houses were reported to me.

Diphtheria. One case was reported, but was of an exceptionally mild character.

Erysipelas. One case occurred. I have only to remark that I see little use in still retaining it amongst the list of notifiable diseases.

There is only one registered Slaughter House in the district, which is kept in a fairly good condition.

I have carried out my duties under "The Factory and Workshop Act," as well as under "The Dairy and Cowsheds Act."

I append my report on the former, and with respect to the latter, several suggestions respecting ventilation and air space for Cows have been willingly complied with by the owners.

During the year I have, at your instructions, taken a large number of samples of Water, and you have had the County Analyst's report on the same, some of which I regret to say are so polluted as to make the use of them a serious danger to

the inhabitants using them ; others are safe to be used, whilst some are in such a condition that the use of them might have deplorable effects.

Arising out of this I would suggest—

- (1) Where practicable, that the houses should be supplied from the main, the water of which is, I believe, pure.
- (2) Substitution, where possible, of W.C.'s in the place of Ash Middens.
- (3) Paving, or Asphaltting, and Draining all back yards.

The District has been thoroughly visited at intervals both by the Sanitary Inspector and myself. Owing to the epidemic of Measles, I had to visit the different Schools, and the virulence of the disease made me think it advisable in the interests of the public health to recommend your Council to take such steps to close the Schools for one month. I also had to make a Special Report on the Epidemic.

The Canal Boats have been inspected on many occasions, and nothing found detrimental to the people living on board of them.

I shall now proceed to a consideration of

VITAL STATISTICS.

POPULATION.

The population of the District at the 1901 census was 3131, but I have taken the estimated population to the middle

of the year as 3187, as I see no reason for thinking it is any more, indeed, I imagine it is almost stationary. On this population, the 103 Births shew a Birth Rate of 32·9 per 1,000. The number of Inhabited Houses is about 660, giving an average of about 4·8 persons to each house.

DEATHS.

The number of Deaths registered and certified amounted to 38. This gives a Death Rate of 11·9 per 1,000. This is the lowest Death Rate recorded in your district for a large number of years. If you will refer to Table I., you will see on a five years' average the number of Deaths has been 45, with a Death Rate of 14 per 1,000.

CAUSES OF DEATHS.

Measles were very prevalent during the months of October, November, and December, and although the type was a most severe one, it is strange only one death was attributed to the disease.

Diarrhoea claimed three victims, all of children under five years of age.

Cancer, I regret to report, is again on the increase. Last year four fatal cases were recorded, against two in the previous year. I find all these patients were above 50 years of age.

Bronchitis and Pneumonia as usual claimed the largest number of Deaths; nine were registered as due to these diseases.

Accidents shew a decline this year, as only three deaths were due to them.

It is a source of satisfaction to note that not a single death was recorded from Infectious Disease, Phthisis, or Puerperal Fever in the year 1906.

Infantile Mortality. This is very favourable compared with 1905. Seven deaths of children under one year of age is something we have not known in Greasbro' for many years, and out of the seven, two only lived an hour, and the others died from unpreventable causes ; so that any stigma that may attach itself to other Districts with respect to Infantile Mortality, clearly has nothing to do with yours.

SICKNESS.

There was a rather large amount of Sickness during the year, consisting of Scarlet Fever, Typhoid Fever, Measles, Diphtheria, Erysipelas, Diarrhœa, Cancer, Bronchitis and Pneumonia, and Heart Disease. I have spoken of the Infectious Diseases, and of the others no particular mention is necessary.

Attached to this Report are the usual Tables I., III., IV., and V., as well as one sent annually by the West Riding County Council.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

JNO. F. CHEESEWRIGHT,

Medical Officer of Health.

TABLE I.

Vital Statistics of Whole District during 1906 and previous Years.

Year.	Population estimated to Middle of each Year.	BIRTHS.		TOTAL DEATHS REGISTERED IN THE DISTRICT.				Total Deaths in Public Institutions in the District.	Deaths of Non-residents registered in Public Institutions in the District.	Deaths of Residents registered in Public Institutions beyond District.
		No.	Rate.	Under 1 year of age.		At all Ages.				
				No.	Rate per 1000 Births registered.	No.	Rate.			
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
1901	3131	100	31.3	15		45	14			
1902	3168	127	40	24		54	17			
1903	3168	104	32.8	15		45	14.2			
1904	3168	90	28.4	12		39	12.3			
1905	3187	102	32	16		55	17.2			
Averages for years 1901-1905	3164	104	32	16		47	14			
1906	3187	103	32.9	7		38	11.9			4

At Census of 1901—

Area of District in acres }
(exclusive of area } 2270.
covered by water).

Total population at all ages, 3131.

Number of inhabited houses, 652.

Average number of persons per house, 4.8.

TABLE V.—Infantile Mortality during the Year 1906.
Deaths from stated Causes in Weeks and Months under One Year of Age.

CAUSE OF DEATH.	Under 1 Week	1-2 Weeks	2-3 Weeks	3-4 Weeks	Total under 1 Month	1-2 Months	2-3 Months	3-4 Months	4-5 Months	5-6 Months	6-7 Months	7-8 Months	8-9 Months	9-10 Months	10-11 Months	11-12 Months	Total Deaths under One Year
	All Causes.																
Certified	2	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	1	...	1	...	...	7
Uncertified																	
I.—Common Infectious Diseases.																	
Small Pox																	
Chicken Pox																	
Measles																	
Scarlet Fever																	
Diphtheria : Croup																	
Whooping Cough																	
II.—Diarrhœal Diseases.																	
Diarrhœa, all forms												1					
Enteritis, Muco-enteritis, Gastro-enteritis																	
Gastritis Gastro-intestinal Catarrh																	
III.—Wasting Diseases.																	
Premature Birth	1																
Congenital Defects																	
Injury at Birth																	
Want of Breast-milk, Starvat'n Atrophy, Debility, Marasmus... ..							1										
IV.—Tuberculous Diseases.																	
Tuberculous Meningitis																	
Tuberculous Peritonitis : Tabes Mesenterica																	
Other Tuberculous Diseases..																	
V.—Other Causes.																	
Erysipelas																	
Syphilis																	
Rickets																	
Meningitis																	
Convulsions												1					
Bronchitis																	
Laryngitis																	
Pneumonia																1	
Suffocation, overlying																	
Other Causes	1	...	1														
	2		1				1				1	1		1			7

Population, estimated to middle of 1906 3187.

Births in the year—Legitimate, 96 ; Illegitimate, 7.

Deaths in the year—Legitimate, Infants, 7 ; Illegitimate Infants, 0.

Deaths from all Causes at all Ages, 38.

